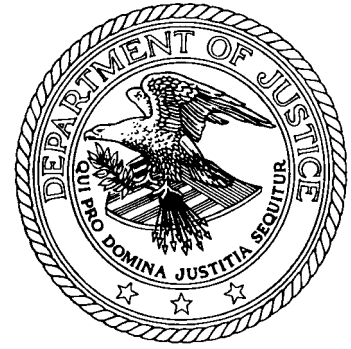


NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U. S. Attorney David L. Katz (619) 557-5226

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - August 27, 2004

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Brad Devine Greene pled guilty today in connection to his role in an extensive credit card fraud and money laundering scheme. Greene entered his guilty plea in U.S. District Court in San Diego, California, before the Honorable Irma E. Gonzalez, admitting to one count of bank fraud and one count of money laundering.

According to the plea agreement, between May 1998 and March 2003, Greene created fictitious credit profiles, opened over 100 credit accounts in at least 18 different fictitious names, and assigned real or fictitious Social Security numbers to each credit account. Credit card applications, which also contained false employment and income information for each of the fictitious names, were then submitted to various banks and financial institutions around the United States. During the same period of time, Greene created fictitious business entities for which he also obtained credit cards. As part of the scheme, Greene would identify himself as the Chief Executive Officer, owner or president, listing his personal salary as \$250,000 a year or higher, when in fact, Greene was unemployed and had no legitimate source of income. Greene also used

Social Security numbers which either belonged to identity theft victims or were nonexistent. In addition, Greene maintained a series of U.S. Postal Service mailboxes, mail drops and commercial mail receivers, under his own name or using an alias he had created, in locations ranging from San Diego, California, and Eureka, Montana, to Vancouver, Washington, and Chonburi, Thailand.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney David L. Katz, who prosecuted the case, Greene used the money from his bank fraud activities to purchase, finance, and improve properties in the San Diego and Santa Maria areas. Greene also used the fraudulently obtained money to purchase gold bullion, jewelry, firearms, securities, personal luxury items, and pay living expenses for himself.

The financial loss to various banks, financial institutions and others as a result of the bank fraud and money laundering scheme is over \$760,000. As part of the plea agreement, Greene agreed to pay restitution to victims in the amount of \$769,183.00. In connection with Greene's plea, the government took possession of four homes that Greene had purchased in Santa Maria, California. Greene's attorney also has agreed to turn over to the government \$130,000 in cash, two vehicles, and other personal luxury items.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the San Diego Regional Fraud Task Force, which is a multi-agency task force operating out of the United States Secret Service Office in San Diego. The task force is made up of agents and investigators from the United States Secret Service, the San Diego Police Department, the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Social Security Administration - Office of Inspector General, the Veterans Administration - Office of Inspector General, the San Diego District Attorney's Office, and the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

Greene is scheduled to be sentenced on December 17, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Irma Gonzalez.

DEFENDANT

Brad Devine Greene, San Diego, CA

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Bank Fraud in violation of Title 18, U.S.C. § 1344 (Count 1)

Maximum penalty is thirty years' in prison and fine not to exceed \$1,000,000

Money Laundering in violation of Title 18, U.S.C. § 1956 (a)(1)(B)(i) (Count 2)

Maximum penalty is twenty years' in prison and fine not to exceed \$500,000

AGENCIES

San Diego Regional Fraud Task Force which is a multi-agency task force operating out of the United States Secret Service Office in San Diego. The task force is made up of agents and investigators from the United States Secret Service, San Diego Police Department, Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division, United States Postal Inspection Service, Social Security Administration - Office of Inspector General, Veterans Administration - Office of Inspector General, San Diego District Attorney's Office, and the San Diego City Attorney's Office.